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Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Applicant(s) claimed invention is directed to a process for the synthesis of ion imprinted polymer particles for solid phase extraction preconcentration of erbium ions.

The art of record demonstrates a method for detecting analytes where the polymer possesses a lanthanide ion such as erbium, which are imprinted to bind chemical functionality. The claimed invention differs from that of the prior art in that the formation of the ion imprinted polymer consist specifically of a mixed ligand ternary complex of erbium imprint ion of 5,7, dichlorquinoline-8-ol and 4 vinyl pyridine. The prior art, while teaching the use of a vinyl substituted chelate, does not disclose a ternary complex or, more specifically to the claimed invention, does not disclose the particular erbium imprint ion of 5,7, dichlorquinoline-8-ol and 4 vinyl pyridine as well as the particular e steps form such. Consequently, the resulting moieties are different. Note the moiety in figure 3 of the prior art "092 and that of figure 3 of applicants' specification.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Correspondence

Please note that the <u>cited</u> U.S. patents and patent application publications are available for download via the Office's PAIR. As an alternate source, <u>all</u> U.S. patents and patent application publications are available on the USPTO web site (<u>www.uspto.gov</u>), from the Office of Public Records and from commercial

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sources. Applicants may be referred to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at

http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/index.html or 1-866-217-9197.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Examiner Terressa Boykin whose telephone number is

571 272-1069. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from

6:30am to 3:00pm.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding

is assigned is 703-872-9306. The general information number for listings of personnel

is (571-272-1700).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

tmb

aminer Terressa Boykir Primary Examiner

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